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of the

M E D I C A L O F F I C E R O F H E A L T H

for the Year 1951.

including

A N N U A L R E P O R T

of the

S A N I T A R Y I N S P E C T O R





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HEALTH COMMITTEE

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Councillor H.R. DOREN

Members:

Councillor L. HALLAM, D.L., J.P.	Councillor M. MEDCALF
Councillor F.T. WELBOURN	Councillor L. SUDDERDEAN
Councillor T. FENBY	Councillor S. BAKER
Councillor W. MALLINSON	Councillor D.H. WATKINS
Councillor R.E. DOOKS	

Clerk of the Council:
K. HENDERSON, A.C.I.S.

Surveyor & Water Engineer:
H.W. KILSBY, A.M.I.Mun.E.
(resigned 31.7.51)
A.G. KELLY, A.M.I.Mun.E.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

Divisional Medical Officer, East Riding County Council:
E.T. COLVILLE, M.D., M.B., B.S.(Hons) ., B.Hy., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector & Housing Manager:
P.A. WILLIAMS, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A., R.S.I., Meat and Other
Foods Certificate

DIVISIONAL MEDICAL STAFF. EAST RIDING COUNTY COUNCIL

Assistant Divisional Medical Officer:
Miss A.D. COLLINS, M.B. CH.B., L.M., D.P.H., D.C.H.

Health Visitor, School Nurse and Tuberculosis Visitor,
Filey Area:
Miss H.G.H. MACDONALD, H.V.Cert., S.C.M., S.R.N.

District Nurse:

Miss M. SPAVIN, S.R.N., S.C.M., R.M.N.

Divisional Health Office,
Town Hall,
BRIDLINGTON.

To the Chairman and Councillors,
Urban District of Filey.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report
on the Health Services of the Urban District for the Year
1951.

During the early weeks of the year, the District
experienced an epidemic of Influenza and the sickness rate
was high, otherwise there were no outstanding circumstances
adversely affecting the health of the District.

The approval of the Ministry of Health following
the Inquiry on 20th March, 1951, into the extension of the
sewage system and the taking of the outfall along the Brig
should, when the works are completed, remove pollution of
the foreshore and add greatly to the amenities of Filey.

I take this opportunity of thanking the Health
Committee of the Council and my fellow officials for
their ready assistance at all times.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

E.T. COLVILLE,

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICAL MEMORANDUM

Urban District	Filey
Area in acres	2,106
Population : 1951 Registrar General	4,697
Number of Inhabited Houses (Estimate 1951)	1,740
Rateable value	£51,391
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£208
Birth-rate	12.3
Death-rate	17.9
Infantile Mortality	17.2

VITAL STATISTICS

(a) Live Births:

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	31	26	57
Illegitimate .		1	<u>1</u>
			<u>58</u>

Birth-rate 12.3 per 1,000
Percentage of Illegitimate births 1.8

The birth-rate for England and Wales was 15.5 per 1,000; our rate is, therefore, 3.2 below that for the country generally.

(b) Still-births:

There were 2 still-births (legitimate) during the year.

(c) Deaths:

The total number of deaths registered during the year as belonging to the Urban District was 84. This is equal to a death-rate of 17.9 per 1,000 compared with a rate of 12.5 for the country generally. The comparability factor to correct the crude death-rate for age and sex distribution in the Urban District is calculated by the Registrar General at 0.90, this on

multiplication with the actual rate gives a comparative death-rate of 16.1 against that of 12.5 for the country generally.

The causes of death are given in Table 1.

(d) Infant Mortality Rate:

There was 1 death in an infant under 1 year of age (illegitimate). The infantile mortality rate based upon the number of live births registered in the year, i.e., 58, is equivalent to a rate of 17.2 per 1,000 births, compared with a rate for the country of 29.6.

TABLE 1

Causes of Death in Filey U.D., 1951 (R.G.)

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
All causes	36	48
Tuberculosis, respiratory	1	1
Cancer, stomach	-	1
Cancer, Lung, bronchus	-	1
Cancer, breast	-	2
Cancer, other sites	4	5
Diabetes	-	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	1	5
Coronary disease, angina	6	6
Hypertension with heart disease	-	1
Other heart disease	7	14
Other circulatory disease	7	4
Influenza	-	2
Bronchitis	2	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	-	2
Hyperplasia of prostate	2	-
Other defined and ill-defined diseases ..	5	2
Homicide and operations of war	1	-

TABLE 11

Vital Statistics - England and Wales (extracts)

Births

Live births 15.5 per 1,000 home population
Still births 0.36 " " " "

Deaths

All causes 12.5 per 1,000 home population
A.1 causes under 1 year of
age 29.6 per 1,000 live births
Enteritis and diarrhoea
under 2 years of age .. 1.4 " " " "
Maternal mortality rate
(all causes)..... 0.79 " " live and still
births

General provision of Health Services for the Area

Laboratory Facilities

Specimens for bacteriological and pathological examinations are sent to the Public Health Laboratory of the Medical Research Council at Hull or to the Pathological Laboratory at Scarborough Hospital.

Samples of water for chemical analysis are forwarded to the Public Analyst for the East Riding.

Maternity and Child Welfare

The County Council provide a fortnightly clinic which is held in the Conference Hall adjoining the Council Offices and there is one Health Visitor resident in the town.

Prevalence of, and control over, Infectious
and Other Diseases

The following ~~infectious~~ diseases were notified during the year :

Erysipelas	1
Measles	17
Paratyphoid Fever	1
Pneumonia	7
Salmonella Infection	1
Scarlet Fever	5
Whooping Cough	18

The Paratyphoid case was traced to the Rural area.

There were no deaths from Measles or Whooping Cough.

Diphtheria Immunisation

The number of children who completed the full course of immunisation in the Authority's area between 1st January and 31st December, 1951, is as follows:

<u>Under 5 years</u>	<u>5 - 15 years</u>
71	-

In addition 69 children received boosting doses.

The estimated number of children immunised at any time who were born between 1937 and 1951 inclusive is as follows:

<u>Under 5 years</u>	<u>5 - 15 years</u>
292	408

Tuberculosis 1951

The Register of Tuberculosis for the year is as follows:

	<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non- Pulmonary</u>		<u>Total</u>	
	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
1st January 1951	12	9	1	3	13	12
31st December 1951	13	8	1	3	14	11

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area

Water

The Water Undertaking is the property of the Filey Urban District Council and supplies the whole of the district and the village of Gristhorpe situate within the Rural District of Scarborough.

The water is obtained from 2 boreholes situate in Station Avenue, 1 of which was sunk in 1891 to a depth of 375 feet and the other in 1926 to a depth of 600 feet. During 1951 the daily yield was 300,000 and 260,000 gallons respectively, making a maximum quantity pumped per day of 560,000 gallons.

The temporary Booster pump which for the past 2 summers has been operated to ensure sufficient water pressure to the village of Gristhorpe was again put into operation pending approval being received from the Ministry of Housing and Local Government for a loan to construct a permanent Booster Station on the Scarborough Road boundary at Copse Hill.

Chemical analysis of the supplies at both bores were as follows:

	<u>No. 1 Bore</u>	<u>No. 2 Bore</u>
Iron (Fe) p.p.m.	0.05	0.20
Manganese (Mn) p.p.m.	-	-
Salt (NaCl) p.p.m.	117	91
Sulphuretted Hydrogen p.p.m.	0.05	0.05
Sulphates (SO ₄) p.p.m.	45	40
Free CO ₂ p.p.m.	2.5	3.5
Temporary Hardness (CaCO ₃) p.p.m.	62	91
Permanent Hardness (CaCO ₃)	64	54
pH	7.2	7.2
pH after addition of chalk	7.6	7.7
Labgelier Index	0.4	0.5
Turbidity on standing	None	None

To the Chairman and Members
of the Health Committee

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the work of the Sanitary Inspector and Staff for the Festival year ending 31st December, 1951. In comparing the detail and progress, may I remind the Committee that it was a year of great changes. On 31st January, the Clerk of the Council, Mr. Hindle, retired, to be followed by the Surveyor to the Council, Mr. Kilsby. who resigned on 31st July. For the next four months, partly at the height of the summer season, I held the acting post of Surveyor and Water Engineer in addition to my usual duties as Sanitary Inspector and Housing Manager, and the work, though not recorded, is reflected in the figures with regard to health and housing detail.

General

The sanitary circumstances have been satisfactory, and many improvements, or preliminaries for further improvements, were completed.

Food

All meat sold within the Urban District was inspected at the Ministry of Food Slaughterhouse at Bridlington. One slaughterhouse within Filey was licensed and used for the slaughter of animals for human food, but not for sale. Five persons were licensed as slaughtermen, but these were employed most of the time in slaughterhouses outside the area. Regular visits were made by your Sanitary Inspector to Butchers Shops and to the slaughterhouse, and the meat van was inspected periodically. Unfortunately, the amount of meat conveyed does not at present warrant one closed van being used solely for this work.

The model bye-laws, with regard to the handling and wrapping of food, made in 1950 under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, were of considerable assistance and most food handlers purchased copies of these bye-laws. Comment was mostly necessary by the Sanitary Inspector with regard to covering meat and food so as to ensure protection from dust and flies, and the provision of notices in toilets and facilities for staff washing, under the bye-laws.

The general standard of hygiene in food shops, hotels, public houses and cafes was satisfactory. Most of the informal notices served were regarding the provision and maintenance of sanitary conveniences.

Milk

There were mainly 2 grades of milk sold in Filey, (a) Tuberculin Tested and (b) Pasteurised.

Milk production on farms was supervised by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. 4 samples were collected by the Sanitary Inspector and submitted as a test for Tuberculosis; all proved negative and the milk negative and the milk was shown to be clean.

Similarly, the County Council supervised and licensed the only milk pasteurisation plant in Filey (Messrs R. Dale & Sons) but by arrangement your Sanitary Inspector assisted with day-to-day supervision and submitted 2 milk samples each month to the laboratory. 2 of the samples were reported as insufficiently pasteurised and the producer was warned. No further adverse samples were received.

The other pasteurised milk sold in this district was produced in Bridlington (Graingers Dairies) or in Scarborough (Co-operative Society) and supervised by the Food and Drugs Authorities concerned. 5 samples were collected within Filey for re-checking and all proved satisfactory. Dealers were licensed by this authority to sell within the area under the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations 1949, some being licensed as producers or dealers by the Ministry or Authority in which production or storing took place.

The following, including school milk, is a summary of milk analysis:

<u>Grade of Milk</u>	<u>No. of Samples</u>	
	<u>Satisfactory</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory</u>
(a) Raw Milk at Farms:		
(1) Cleanliness	1	Nil
(2) Tuberculosis	4	Nil
{b} Tuberculin Tested	2	Nil
{c} Pasteurised	26	2
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	33	2
	<hr/>	<hr/>

There was very little raw undesignated milk sold by retail in the district.

The following licences were issued under the Milk (Special Designation) or Milk (Pasteurised and Sterilised) Regulations:-

<u>Tuberculin Tested</u>			<u>Pasteurised</u>			<u>Sterilised</u>	
<u>Bottling</u>	<u>Dealers</u>	<u>Supple- mentary Dealers</u>	<u>Producers</u>	<u>Dealers</u>	<u>Supple- mentary Dealers</u>	<u>Prod- ucers</u>	<u>Deal- ers</u>
1	4	3	1	5	2	2	5

Drinking Water

The water supply is obtained from two deep boreholes in Council premises adjoining the Brig Cinema and Gas Showrooms. It is chlorinated at the source and also at the time of leaving the storage reservoirs, situated in Sands Road at the extreme southern edge of the Urban District. During the year 10 samples have been submitted for bacteriological examination, and, with the exception of 2 taken on the housing estate soon after the first occupation, were all reported as Class 1 highly satisfactory. More recent samples from the housing estate were all Class 1 highly satisfactory. 4 samples were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Hull, for chemical analysis. 1 sample taken from West Road was reported as unsuitable for drinking and laundry purposes having .025 parts per 100,000 dissolved iron. Samples taken from the boreholes simultaneously showed .001 parts per 100,000 of iron. The Water Consultant Engineer recommended the sterilisation of the circuit by concentrated chlorine in solution to remove deposits and iron bacteria. This was commenced prior to the close of the year and has resulted in considerable improvement in the physical characteristics of the water and the necessary great reduction in the iron content at the end of the system, e.g. West Road.

Ice Cream

There were 6 premises registered for the manufacture of ice cream which were used only during the summer. All premises conformed to the Ice Cream Regulations 1947. 9 samples of ice cream were submitted to the laboratory for methylene blue test, 4 were spoilt, 2 were reported grade 1, and 1 was grade 4, after advice was given grade 3 and later reported grade 1.

Unsound Food Surrendered and Destroyed or Disposed of

<u>Food</u>	<u>No. of Tins</u>	<u>Weight</u>	<u>Food</u>	<u>No. of Tins</u>	<u>Weight</u>
Ham	11	47 $\frac{1}{2}$	Peas	10	9 $\frac{1}{2}$
Milk	37	14 $\frac{1}{2}$	Tomatoes	33	48 $\frac{1}{2}$
Apple	5	14 $\frac{1}{2}$	Meat	14	24
Plums	3	3 $\frac{1}{4}$	Spaghetti	41	41
Cheese		6	Jam	7	35
Bacon		16	Salmon	1	1
Fruit Salad	5	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	Puddings	1	1
Oranges	4	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	Pears	2	
Shrimps	1	3 oz.	Beans	3	3
Apricots	1	11	Meat	2	4 $\frac{1}{2}$
Steak Pudding	2	2			

Housing

Filey's resident population (in 1951) was 4,697, and there were 1,740 dwellinghouses, some combined with shops, and several hundred let in flats. During the summer, the population was estimated at 22,000 (including caravan sites and holiday camps). Many houses and flats which were let furnished during the winter to local families, had to be vacated at short notice for seasonal lettings. In spite of this, it was rare that a case of overcrowding under the 1936 Housing Act standard was found. About 80 of the younger local families, often with one child, were sharing houses or flats with relations, or were in expensive furnished accommodation which they could ill-afford. 8 families were known to reside throughout the winter in caravans. There were 42 requisitioned bungalows at West Vale which, although let by the Council for the Ministry of Health, were considered unsuitable for permanent occupation. About 20 basement flats or attics were occupied which require to be adapted or closed, and some 40 houses fell into the demolition category but alternative accommodation was not available.

The Council were very active in an effort to overcome the housing difficulties, and 23 3-bedroom houses were built and occupied during the year. Land had been purchased for a further 250 houses and roads were constructed to serve the first 66. In addition to this, the Council had previously provided the following:

<u>Type</u>	<u>No.</u>
4 bedroom houses	8
2 " "	68
3 " "	198
1 " old folks bungalows	<u>12</u>
	<u>286</u>

Altogether 38 houses were let during the year and arrangements were made for 35 tenants to exchange their houses, 3 being exchanged with outside towns. At the close of the year there were 350 applicants seeking Council houses, of which approximately 120 had unsuitable accommodation, although they had lived in Filey more than 5 years.

Camping Sites

The general standards of the 2 licensed Camping Sites were good and continued to improve. At the largest camp which is situated in Primrose Valley, several earth roads were macadamised and the water services extended. On camps all water is supplied by standpipes from Urban District mains within 200 feet of each caravan. Plans were prepared to convert a second block of pail closets into water closets. In the other latrines, night soil from buckets was emptied into a sewer by means of a tank trailer.

At Lowfield Farm several hundred caravans were accommodated. The water supply was by standpipe from Urban District mains. Pail closets were used, the contents being ploughed into agricultural land at regular intervals.

A third camping site at Wright's field, O.S. 226, CX3, was in preparation. This includes water supply and drainage.

The estimated population of the 3 camps during August was 3,400 persons.

Public Cleansing

The Council maintained a weekly collection of house refuse throughout the area and also removed the bulk of the trade refuse, the first bin free and subsequent bins being charged at a rate of 3d. each.

3 Karrier 12 h.p. side loading covered lorries, 7 cub. yards., were used during the summer and 2 during the winter. On the tip at Scarborough Road 2 men were employed during the summer, but one man only during the winter. A Fordson Major Tractor fitted with drag scoop and muledozer plate for collecting and spreading cover soil was used to maintain a good standard of controlled tipping. It is estimated that 2,680 tons of house and trade refuse were disposed of.

The tip was maintained free from rats.

Salvage

Small metal articles were salvaged and sold for £7. 5s. 6d. Paper salvage yielded £463. 0s. 0d. gross. Other items of salvage, wood, rags, etc., produced £12. 0s. 0d.

Sewage Disposal

The built-up area of Filey comprising approximately 1,200 dwellinghouses and business premises is sewered into an outfall which is situated in Filey Bay, near the Coble Landing. The large Holiday Camp at the southern end of the area, where 6,000 persons resided during the peak of summer, has a separate temporary outfall into Filey Bay and is fitted with storage tanks so that sewage can be released twice daily at high tide. These outfalls do not extend far enough, and it remains a serious defect to the area that the excellent beach is sometimes fouled at low tide by sewage from both sewer outfalls and storm water overflows.

To overcome this the Council had schemes prepared, and application for approval was made to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government. Under this plan, all outfalls and proposed sewers from Primrose Valley and Royal Oak were to be collected into a main sewer on the sands and pumped into a new outfall to the north of Filey Brig. A local enquiry conducted by a Ministry Inspector resulted in approval being granted. Plans were made to dispose of the septic tanks serving the 8 houses in Seadale Terrace. These houses are now connected by a sewer to the main sewer outfall.

There are several cesspools, notably at Primrose Valley, Airey Hill and Royal Oak, which require regular emptying at periods from 3 to 6 weeks to prevent nuisance by the soiling of public places or waterways. These cesspools received regular attention by arrangement with Bridlington Corporation who loaned the large mechanical sewage tanker. The collection of night soil from the bucket latrines serving a portion of Primrose Valley camping ground and temporary bungalows was carried out by the Council's employees using a tank trailer twice per week, without complaint.

Conversion of Earth Closets into Water Closets

The Council's policy of contributing one third of the estimated cost of conversion of all earth closets into water closets was pursued and resulted in 8 conversions during the year. About 32 earth closets remain within the sewered portion of Filey.

Rodent Control

Although surrounded by rural area or coast, Filey has been maintained free from rats by 1 operator working 4 days per week, using Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries methods and thus qualifying for 50% Ministry grant. Business premises did not rank for grant and the occupiers were charged labour, plus materials, plus 15%. Farms within the area were treated and farmers notified the Authority when ricks were being broken so that wire netting could be fixed around and all rats destroyed.

Number of visits by part-time Rodent	
Operator	715
Infestations eradicated	184
Sewer manholes test-baited and treated	34

Exception was granted from the second treatment as the sewers were generally free from rats.

Factories Acts, 1937 and 1948

1. Inspections for purposes of provision as to health:

<u>Premises</u>	<u>No. on Register</u>	<u>No. of Inspections</u>	<u>No. of written notices</u>
(1) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	5	13	1
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	24	28	3
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	10	14	3
Total	39	55	7

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found:

<u>Particulars</u>	<u>Found</u>	<u>Remedied</u>
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)		
Unsuitable or defective	4	4
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	5	5
Total	9	9

Visits and Inspections

Houses - Public Health and Housing Acts	
Investigating suspected overcrowding	49
Structural defects and disrepair	21
Sanitary defects, nuisances	66
Infested by vermin	27
Disinfested by Local Authority	23
Investigating infectious diseases	35
Re-visits	116
Owned by Local Authority	652
Common courts, etc.	16
Interviews with owners, agents, etc.	98
Interviews with occupiers	216
Interviews with contractors	63
Meat shops and preparation rooms	39
Bakehouses	18
Provision shops	42
Cafe and hotel kitchens	31
Ice Cream premises	56
Other food premises	120
School conveniences	10
Shops for purposes of Shops Act	22
Dairies, etc.	48
Milk samples for bacteriological examination	31
Milk samples for biological tests	4
Drinking water samples for bacteriological examination	10
Other samples for bacteriological examination	9
Specimens for examination	17
Factories with power	28
Factories without power	13
Other workplaces	14
Public sanitary conveniences	48
Visits re rodents	36
Refuse tip	60
Camping sites	26
Refuse collection, etc.	43
Cesspools and drainage	56
Miscellaneous visits	94
Notices served - informal	58
formal	3
Notices complied - informal	58
formal	3

In conclusion, I wish to tender my thanks to the Chairman of the Health and Housing Committees, to the many Councillors, the Clerk, Officers and men of the Council whose co-operation, support and assistance on all occasions in dealing with many difficult matters has been invaluable.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

P.A. WILLIAMS,

Sanitary Inspector
&
Housing Manager

